

Application No. 10/030,100

Reply to Office Action of March 31, 2003

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. 5,415,906 (Miyakawa et al), is respectfully traversed. Miyakawa et al disclose a heat resistant electrically conductive plastic sheet, such as for an embossed carrier tape (column 1, lines 25-26), which sheet comprises three essential components, one of which is a polyphenylene ether resin (PPE) (column 2, lines 57-65, especially line 61). Miyakawa et al discloses further that if the content of PPE is less than 32 parts by weight, no adequate mechanical properties and heat resistance tend to be obtainable (column 2, lines 65-67). Thus, Miyakawa et al does not anticipate the presently-claimed invention, since Miyakawa et al must contain PPE while the present claims exclude it. Nor is the presently-claimed invention otherwise unpatentable over Miyakawa et al, because Miyakawa et al provides no motivation to omit their PPE.

For all the above reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection over Miyakawa et al be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed.

With regard to the meaning of "JIS-K-7128-3," JIS refers to Japanese Industrial Standard. A copy of an English translation of this standard is submitted herewith.

Regarding the finding that the claims are indefinite because they do not set forth a composition or structure of the sheet, it is moot in view of the above-discussed amendment.

So is the finding with regard to the term "for an embossed carrier tape", which no longer appears in the claims.

With regard to the term " Ω/\square ", Applicants note that the unit of the surface resistance (surface resistivity) is correctly " Ω ". In Miyakawa et al, it is correct to use " Ω " as the unit of the surface resistivity. In Japan, however, in order to distinguish the surface resistivity from a

Application No. 10/030,160

Reply to Office Action of March 31, 2003

normal resistance, the unit of the surface resistance is indicated as " Ω/\square " also. It is common to use this nomenclature in this are in Japan. See, for example, U.S. 6,452,331 (copy enclosed), which uses " Ω/\square ". Although it is not certain why the " \square " is used, Applicants assume that the " \square " perhaps means a surface. The term " Ω/\square " has also been stated as the term -- Ω/square --or -- $\Omega/\text{sq.}$ --. Applicants have no objection to either of these terms.

Regarding the term "uses a thermoplastic resin", it no longer appears in the claims.

Regarding the term "embossed carrier tape", that term is well-understood in the art, and as stated above, appears in Miyakawa et al, *supra*. See also the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER), of record, and its reference to the term "embossed carrier tape." Submitted herewith are copies of documents 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 therein. Indeed, such term can be found by going to the following websites:

http://www.advantek.com/carrier_tape_content.htm; and

http://products3.3m.com/catalog/us/en001/electronics_mfg/electronic_handling/node_3QDW R4S5CGbe/root_GST1T4S9TCgv/vroot_54FL4R3WNKge/gvel_KF2D9LW089gl/theme_us_chpd_3_0/command_AbcPageHandler/output_html.

For all the above reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

The objection to the Abstract of the Disclosure is now moot in view of the above-discussed amendment. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that it be withdrawn.

The Examiner is reminded that according to the Notice published in 1156 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 91 (November 23, 1993), and MPEP 609 (8th ed., page 600-119), in PCT national stage applications, when the above Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates that both the International Search Report and copies of the references cited therein have been received by PTO, the Examiner will consider the references and should state for the record that the references have been considered. In view of such form of date February 27, 2002 in this

Application No. 10/030,100

Reply to Office Action of March 31, 2003

application, **Applicants respectfully solicit the Examiner to consider these references and to explicitly state that for the record.**

All of the presently pending claims in this application are now believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413-2220

Norman F. Oblon
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 24,618

Harris A. Pitlick
Registration No. 38,779